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THE SCHOLARLY BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MICHAEL MEYLAC

A cumulative bibliography of scholarly works by Michael Meylac (Mikhail Meylakh), along with a brief discussion of the difficulties doing bibliographic research in two alphabets and multiple languages. The bibliography includes Meylac's publications on Russian literature, Occitan literature, and other topics.

Key Words: Michael Meylac; Mikhail Meylakh; bibliography; Occitan literature; Russian literature.

This short article has two components. The first describes the most salient issues I encountered as I attempted to establish a cumulative bibliography of the works by scholar Michael Meylac, an effort complicated by several factors, many of a strictly linguistic nature. The second is that bibliography, a listing of the scholar's publications from 1970 to 2021, the most recent year I could find.

Because I sought to surprise the subject of this essay, I did not attempt to consult his CV, which, for the record, was not to be found online. One can reconstruct his publication history somewhat, by consulting his own collection of essays (see 2018. Поэзия и миф: избранные статьи: к 70-летию со дня рождения автора [*Poetry and Myth: Selected Articles on the Anniversary of the Author's Birth*]), though the very title of this volume makes clear that the book does not include not all of Meylac's shorter works. In the listing below, I did not include essays first published in this hefty tome of 1055 pages.

The biggest hindrance to my effort relates to Meylac's life-long practice of publishing in Russian, a practice which I am not questioning. He has also published in French and, on occasion, in translation into other languages, including English. Transcriptions of Russian into the Latin alphabet are inconsistent, reflecting the spelling conventions of the receiving language, which may explain why, in his case, International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI), one very reliable

source for personal names, offers a list of twenty-one different orthographies.¹ Virtual International Authority File (VIAF), another reliable source for personal names, offers only slightly fewer spelling possibilities, fifteen.² Moreover, at the time I first investigated Meylac's publication history, in September 2024, I discovered that, for reasons unknown, ISNI had assigned him two different identification numbers, 0000 0000 6648 3034 for much of his œuvre and 0000 0000 6701 4758 for one small part of it. According to the rules of ISNI, differing transcriptions of a person's name should not result in two different ISNI numbers.³ (I have alerted ISNI to this inconsistency and wait to see the reaction and/or correction of the files).

While transcriptions of Cyrillic by libraries working in a number of different Latin-alphabet languages have complicated my efforts, they did not deter me from my goal: to assemble a cumulative bibliography of Michael Meylac's publications over the course of his career (see below). With this bibliographic record, we can now consider the breadth of his interests, how longstanding these have been, and the importance of his work for students of Occitan and Russian literature.

I add that Michael Meylac is presented on the French version of Wikipedia (https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mikha%C3%AFl_Meïlakh, consulted 30 September 2024) as well as on the Russian, Ukrainian, and Uzbek versions of that online resource. As I lack mastery in these non-Romance languages, I did not use these last three for this research.

¹ <https://isni.org/page/search-database/>, searching for Michael Meylakh, consulted 30 September 2024: Meïlak, M.; Meïlakh, M. B.; Meïlakh, Mikhaïl; Meïlakh, Mikhail Borisovich; Meïlakh, Mikhail Borisovitch; Mejlach, M.; Mejlach, M. B.; Mejlach, Michail; Mejlach, Michail B.; Mejlach, Michail Borisovič; Mejlach, Michail Borisovič; Mejlach, M. B.; Mejlach, Mihail; Mejlach, Mihail Borisovič; Mejlak, M.; Meylac, Michaël; Meylak, M.; Мейлах, Михайл; Мейлах, М. Б.; Мейлах, Михаил; and Мейлах, Михаил Борисович.

² <https://viaf.org/viaf/125692/#skos:Concept>, consulted 30 September 2024. These names are culled from library catalogues around the world: Meïlakh, Mikhail, Meïlakh, Mikhail Borisovitch, 1944–....; Мейлах, Михаил Борисович, 1945–; Mejlach, Michail Borisovič, 1944–; Meïlakh, Mikhail Borisovich; Мейлах, Михаил Борисович; Mejlach, Michail 1945–; Mejlach, Michail Borisovič, 1945–; Mejlach, Mihail Borisovič 1945–....; Mejlach, M. B. (Michail Borisovič), 1944–; Михаил Борисович Мейлах; Mejlach, Mihail Borisovič (1944–); Meilahh, Mihhail, 1944–; Мейлах, Михаил Борисович 1944–; and Meylac, Michael.

³ Per the www site, <https://isni.org/page/faqs/>: “What about alternative spellings of a given Public Identity?”

William Shakespear and William Shakespeare are alternative spellings of the same Public Identity and therefore refer to a single Public identity with a unique ISNI. The same applies alternative spellings, alternative presentations, character set variances, transliteration variances and linguistic variances.

Examples:

- e. e. cummings and E. E. Cummings or Oxford University Press and OUP are alternative presentations of the same Public Identity.
- Günter Graß, Guenter Grass and Guenter Graß are character set variances of the same Public Identity.
- Ciaikovsky, Pjotr Iljč and Пётр Ильич Чайковский are transliteration variances of the same public identity.
- Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Peter Tchaikovsky are linguistic variances of the same public identity.”

(consulted 29 September 2024).

What follows is my imperfect effort to compile the bibliography of scholarly publications by Michael Meylac, across topics, languages, and countries of publication. My sources have included databases available online and a time-honored source — Meylac's footnotes found in his publications. Using these resources, I count roughly seventy-five distinct book and article publications. Not included in this number are essays that formed part of his 1993 translation and study of Jean de Nostredame's *Vies des troubadours*, which Meylac has, on occasion, cited separately nor new pieces added to his 2018 collected essays.

Compiling this cumulative bibliography has expanded my understanding of Meylac's work, across disciplines, languages, and time. As a scholar of Occitan literature, I knew him only as a scholar of that literature; his publications in that discipline tend to focus on the medieval and Renaissance periods. I understand much better now that his expertise in modern Russian literature is extensive and probably underappreciated, that he has published on linguistics, semiotics, poetics, and cultural anthropology. I hope this bibliography, albeit incomplete, will be useful for the future.

The Publications of Michael Meylac

Meylac is consistently listed as first author, even when this was not the case (co-author names are always provided). Spelling of personal names is given as found in my varied source(s); transcriptions and transliterations are as found in those source(s); translations as found in the same sources or provided by me. Items are listed in chronological order, then alphabetical order by title, Roman alphabet before Cyrillic (no attempt has been made to put the Cyrillic titles in that language's alphabetical order). I provide the titles I was able to locate, recognizing that some non-Russian titles given here may actually represent translations of the titles of publications in Russian. Generally, authored works are listed before edited works. Place of publication is consistently cited with the English spelling. Wherever possible, I have provided an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) or Online Computer Library Center (OCLC)⁴ number for each publication. I note that the layout of the bibliographic references that follow is presented in "author-date" format, so as to make clear the chronology of publication.

Meilakh, M. B. 1970. "A Handful of Remarks on the Language Practice of the Troubadours." 189–209 in S. D. Kacnel'son, ed. Лингвистические исследования (*Lingvisticskie issledovanija*). Moscow: Akademiya nauk SSSR. ISSN: 0301-6900.

Majlax, M. B. 1970. "K voprosu o poetike srednevekovoj literatury: Poezija trubadurov" [On the Topic of the Poetics of Medieval Literature: Troubadour Poetry]. Известия Академии наук СССР. Серия литературы и языка. *Izvestiia Akademii Nauk, Seriya Literatury i Iazyka* 29: 295–307. ISSN: 0321-1711.

⁴ OCLC produces WorldCat, a cumulative world-wide library catalogue.

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⁵ See <https://firstsearch-oclc-org.proxy.library.upenn.edu/idp/profile/SAML2/POST/SSO?execution=e2s1>, consulted October 1, 2024.

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⁶ I thank Aleksey Berg for his careful proofreading of this article.

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Венди Пфефер

НАУЧНА БИБЛИОГРАФИЈА МИХАИЛА МЕЈЛАХА

Резиме

Кумулативна библиографија научних радова Михаила Мејлаха (Michael Meylac), уз кратку дискусију о потешкоћама при извођењу библиографских истраживања на два писма и више језика. Ова библиографија обухвата Мејлахове публикације о руској књижевности, провансалској књижевности и о другим темама.

Кључне речи: Михаил Мејлах, библиографија, провансалска књижевност, руска књижевност.